



A MONTENEGRIN COLUMN ON THE MARCH.

When the Montenegrins are advancing against an enemy the women not only look after the pack mules and transport arrangements generally, but themselves do the work of pack mules. In addition to this they form the Red Cross branch of the army, bringing the wounded in from the front and nursing them. Their strength is greater than that of many men.—Illustrated London News.

A SONG OF FAR TRAVEL.

Many a time some drowsy oar
From the nearer bank invited,
Crossed a narrow stream, and bore
In among the reeds moon-lighted,
There to leave me on a shore
No ferryman had sighted.

Many a time a mountain stile,
Dark and bright with sudden wetting,
Lured my vagrant foot the while
Twixt uplighting and down-setting—
Whither? Thousand mile on mile
Beyond the last forgetting.

Still by hidden ways I wend,
(Past occasion grown a ranger):
Still enchantment, like a friend,
Takes from death the tang of danger:
Hardly river or road can end
Where I need step a stranger!

—Atlantic.

Rather a Neat Job

My profession isn't a popular one. There is considerable prejudice against it. I don't myself think it's much worse than a good many others. However, that's nothing to do with my story. Some years ago me and the gentleman who was at that time connected with me in business—his met with reverses since then, and at present isn't able to get out—were looking around for a job, being at that time rather hard up, as you might say. We struck a small country town—I ain't a-goin' to give it away by telling where it was, or what the name if it was. There was one bank there; the president was a rich old duffer; owned the mills, owned the bank, owned most of the town. There wasn't no other officer but the cashier, and they had a boy, who used to sweep out and run of errands.

The bank was on the main street, pretty well up one end of it—nice, snug place, on the corner of a cross street, with nothing very near it. We took our observations and found there wasn't no trouble at all about it. There was an old watchman that walked up and down the streets nights, when he didn't fall asleep and forget it. The vault had two doors; the outside one was chilled iron, and a three wheel combination lock; the inner door wasn't no door at all; you could kick it open. It didn't pretend to be nothing but fireproof, and it wasn't even that. The first thing we done, of course, was to fit a key to the outside door. As the lock on the outside door was an old-fashioned Bacon lock, any gentleman in my profession who chances to read this article will know just how easy that job was, and how we did it.

This was our plan: After the key was fitted I was to go into the bank, and Jim—that wasn't his name, of course, but let it pass—was to keep watch on the outside. When any one passed he was to tip me a whistle, and then I doused the glim and lay low; after they got by, I goes on again. Simple and easy, you see. Well, the night as we selected the president happened to be out of town; gone down to the city, as he often did. I got inside all right, with a slide lantern, a breast drill, a small steel jimmy, a bunch of skeleton keys and a green balze bag, to stow the swag. I fixed my light and rigged my breast drill, and got to work on the door right over the lock.

Probably a great many of our readers are not so well posted as me about bank locks, and I may say for them that a three wheel combination lock has three wheels in it, and a slot in each wheel. In order to unlock the door, you have to get the three slots opposite to each other at the top of the lock. Of course, if you know the number the lock is set on you can do this; but if you don't you have to depend on your ingenuity. There is in each of these wheels a small hole, through which you can put a wire through the back of the lock when you change the combination. Now, if you can bore a hole through the door and pick up those wheels by running a wire through those holes, why, you can open the door. I hope I make myself clear. I was working that hole. The door was chilled iron; about the nearest stuff I ever worked on. I went on steady enough; only stopped when Jim—which, as I said, wasn't his real name—whistled outside, and the watchman toddled by. By-and-by, when I'd got pretty near through, I heard Jim—so to speak—whistle again. I stopped, and pretty soon I heard foot-steps outside, and I'm blowed, if they didn't come right up to the bank steps and I heard a key in the lock. I was so dumfounded when I heard that that you could have slipped the bracelets



I WAS BORING THAT HOLE.

account of not being oiled enough. These 'ere locks ought to be oiled about once a year.

"Well," says he, "you might as well go into town, now I'm here; I will stay till Jennings comes. Can't I help you—hold your lantern, or something of that sort?"

The thought came to me like a flash, and I turned around and says:

"How do I know you're the president? I ain't ever seen you afore, and you may be a-tryin' to crack this bank for all I know."

"That's a very proper inquiry, my man," says he, "and shows a most remarkable degree of discretion. I confess that I should not have thought of the position in which I was placing you. However, I can easily convince you that it's all right. Do you know what the president's name is?"

"No, I don't," says I, sorter surly.

"Well, you'll find it on that bill," said he, taking a bill out of his pocket; "and you see the same name on these letters," and he took some letters from his coat.

I suppose I ought to have gone right on then, but I was beginning to feel interested in making him prove who he was, so I says:

"You might have got those letters to put up a job on me."

"You're a very honest man," says he; "one among a thousand. Don't think I'm at all offended at your persistence. No, my good fellow, I like it, I like it, and he laid his hand on my shoulder. "Now, here," says he, taking a bundle out of his pocket, "is a package of ten thousand dollars in bonds. A burglar wouldn't be apt to carry these around with him, would he? I bought them in the city yesterday, and I stopped here to-night on my way home to place them in the vault, and I may add that your simple and manly honesty has so touched me that I would willingly leave them in your hands for safe keeping. You needn't blush at my praise."

I suppose I did turn sorter red when I see them bonds.

"Are you satisfied now?" says he.

I told him I was, thoroughly, and so I was. So I picked up my drill again, and gave him the lantern to hold so that I could see the door. I got through

the lock pretty soon, and put in my wire and opened it. Then he took hold of the door and opened the vault.

"I'll put my bonds in," says he, "and go home. You can look up and wait till Mr. Jennings comes. I don't suppose you will try to fix the lock to-night?"

I told him I shouldn't do anything more with it now, as we could get in before morning.

"Well, I'll bid you good-night, my man," says he, as he quietly swung the door to again.

Just then I heard Jim, by name, whistle, and I guessed the watchman was a-coming up the street.

"Ah," says I, "you might speak to the watchman, if you see him, and tell him to keep an extra look-out to-night."

"I will," says he, and we both went to the front door.

"There comes the watchman up the street," says he. "Watchman, this man has been fixing the bank lock, and I want you to keep a sharp lookout to-night. He will stay here and wait until Mr. Jennings returns."

"Good-night again," says he, and we shook hands, and he leisurely went up the street.

I saw Jim, so called, in the shadow on the other side of the street, as I stood on the step with the watchman.

"Well," says I to the watchman, "I'll go and pick up my tools, and get ready to go."

I went into the bank, and it didn't take long to throw the door open and stuff them bonds into the bag. There was some boxes lying around, and a safe as I should rather have liked to have tackled, but it seemed like tempting Providence after the luck we'd had.

I looked at my watch and see it was just a quarter past twelve. There was an express train went through at half-past twelve. I tucked my tools in the bag on top of the bonds, and walked out of the front door. The watchman was on the steps.

"I don't believe I'll wait for Mr. Jennings," says I. "I suppose it will be all right if I give you this key."

"That's all right," says the watchman.

"I wouldn't go away very far from the bank," says I.

"No, I won't," says he; "I'll stay right about here all night."

"Good-night," says I, and I shook hands with him, and me and Jim—which wasn't his right name, you understand—took the twelve-thirty express, and the best part of that job was we never heard nothing of it.

It never got into the papers.—Pennsylvania Grit.

The Insufferable Anticipation.

A young Scotch emigrant was brought before the magistrate of a Nova Scotia court, charged with having deserted his work on a certain farm without giving due notice to his employer. When asked what he had to say in his defense, he replied, "Well, they gied me nout but brakeshaw to eat." Brakeshaw, it may be explained, is the flesh of animals which have died a natural death.

"How was that?" asked the magistrate.

"Well, it was this way. Ye ken, the auld coo deed an' we ate it, the auld steer (gander) deed an' we ate it, the auld sow (cow) deed an' we ate it, the auld bubblecock deed an' we ate it. Then the old woman deed—an' I left."

—Bellman.

The First Hello Girl.

They were seated around a table in a well known cafe, and the conversation had turned upon the development of the flying machine and other fruits of the inventive genius of the day.

"Tut, tut," exclaimed a solemn faced, lantern jawed member of the party. "What of it?" The old folks were not so slow. Look at the telephone, claimed as a modern invention. Why, say, it's the oldest on record."

"You better see your doctor. What's the matter with you?" asked another.

"Oh, I mean it," said the solemn-faced man. "Telephone service dates back to the garden of Eden—that's where it originated. The garden's call was 2-8-1 Apple."

Then he dodged the remnant of a sandwich, reached for his hat and was gone.—New York Globe.

A Change.

Mrs. Larkin—I want a little money to-day, Fred.

Mrs. L.—I'm very glad of that.

Mrs. L. (surprised)—Why are you glad? Mr. L.—Because generally you want a good deal.

If a man is honest you can always tell it by the way he doesn't talk about it.

"I forgot" is a poor but popular excuse.

SHEAR NONSENSE

A woman and her opinions are soon parted.

Wigg—I have a noiseless typewriter. Wagg—Is she a deaf-mute?—Philadelphia Record.

"What ails me, doc?" asked the general clinician. "You need a job. You're suffering from overrest."—New York Sun.

Mrs. Benham—How much did you pay the minister when we were married? Benham—He fined me five dollars.—Harper's Weekly.

Teacher—Now, children, what is the greatest enemy of poultry? Silence. Teacher—Who eats the most poultry? Pupils—The minister!—Jugend (Munich).

The Lady—Little boy, don't you know smoking will shorten your life? The Kid—Shucks! What do I care? I've seen everything here is.—Boston Traveler.

Pat—I hear yer wolfe is sick, Molke. Mike—She is thof. Pat—Is it danger ous she is? Mike—Divil a bit. She's too weak to be dangerous any more!—Brooklyn Life.

Facetious Friend (teasingly)—Well, which rules—you or your wife? Mr. Youngblood (with hauteur)—You forget we can afford to keep a cook.—Baltimore American.

Stella—So your father handled him without gloves? Bella—Yes, and it would have been better for poor dear George if he had done it without shoes.—New York Sun.

"The telephone is certainly a great invention. Think of it! You can talk to your wife fifty miles away." "That may be your experience. All I've been able to do is to listen."

"Have you," asked the judge of a recently convicted man, "anything to offer the court before sentence is passed?" "No, your honor," replied the prisoner, "my lawyer took my last dollar."

"I saw the major's wife at her window early this morning. She looked 40 years old." "You must be mistaken, your highness; no woman is as old as she looks in the morning!"—Fliegende Blätter.

"Why are you so vexed, Irma?" "I am so exasperated! I attended the meeting of the Social Equality League, and my parlor maid presided and had the audacity to call me to order three times!"—Fliegende Blätter.

Mulligan—The byes say ye licked poor Casey. Shure, he never hurt my man's feelin's. Harrigan—He's a shunke in the grass. The blackguard referred to me as his contemporary, and I'll be the contemporary to no man livin'!—Puck.

"Before we were married," said Mrs. Chatterton, "you used to tell me how much you loved me, but you never do now." "Of course not, my dear," replied the masculine partner. "Since our marriage you haven't given me a chance to tell you anything."

Said a poet to an unfortunate speculator: "Don't you think that the opening lines of Tennyson's little poem, 'Break, break, break,' are plaintive and sad?" "Yes," says the melancholy reply. "But I think that 'Broke, broke, broke,' is a good deal sadder."

"William," she said, "means good. James means beloved. I wonder" she softly murmured, "what George means?" "George means business," I hope," said mother, looking up from the wedding announcements in the paper.

Anxious Mother—Nellie, dear, do you think that young Huggins, who has been calling on you twice a week for some time, is matrimonially inclined? Pretty Daughter—Really, I don't know what to think, mamma, dear. He has such a knack of keeping one in the dark!

Old Acquaintance—Why, old chap, a few years ago you were the best dressed man in town, but now your outfit is pretty shabby. Have a reverse! Companion—Well, you may call it that. The truth is, I got married since, and now it's my wife that's the best dressed woman in town.

Young Wife—To-morrow will be my birthday, dear. Young Husband—You'll be twenty-one? Young Wife—No; twenty-five. Young Husband—Why, a year ago, just before our wedding, you told me you were only twenty. Young Wife—Yes, but I have aged rapidly since our marriage.

"My friends," said an itinerant preacher, "the Scriptural rule for giving was one-tenth of what a man possessed. If you feel you can't afford so much, just give a sixth, or a fourth, according to your means. We will dispense with the next hymn and take up the collection."—Lippincott's.

Willie—And so you quarreled? Charlie—Yes; she sent back all my presents. And what do you suppose I did? Willie—Can't guess. Charlie—I sent her a half dozen boxes of face powder, with a note explaining that I'd taken about that much home on my coat since I'd known her.—The Cos. ip.

Outside of His Practice.

"All that is the matter with you, sir," said the eminent physician after a thorough examination, "is lack of nutrition. You don't eat enough."

"I eat all I can hold, doctor," said the attenuated caller.

"Then you need to have your capacity enlarged, and that's a case for a surgeon. Five dollars, please. Good morning!"—Chicago Tribune.

The Making of It.

"If they're both deaf and dumb, I don't see how they could make love."

"No? I should say it was the best kind—all handmade, you know."—New York Sun.

It's queer the way a girl can wink without getting caught at it.

IN THE OLD HOUSE

The fruits are stored, the fields are bare,
The ground is hard, the skies are gray;
November's chill is in the air,
To-morrow is Thanksgiving day.

The farmhouse stands in sheltered nook,
Its walls are filled with warmth and cheer;
Its fire shines out with friendly look
To welcome all who enter here.

Full forty years have come and gone
Since first this hearthstone'suddy glow,
Fresh kindled, flung its light upon
Thanksgiving guests of long ago.

Long was the list of aunts and dames;
From year to year how short it grew!
The shade and sunlight, interspersed,
Have fallen long above their breasts.

Grandmother?—aye, she went the first;
Grandfather?—by her side he rests!
The shade and sunlight, interspersed,
Have fallen long above their breasts.

Our aunts and uncles?—sundered wide,
Their graves lie east, their graves lie west;
As veteran soldiers scared and tried,
They fought their fight, they earned their rest.

Our father?—dear and gentle heart!
A nature sweet, beloved by all;
How early turned his steps apart
To pass from human ken and call!

Our mother?—brisk and kindly soul!
How to live she bore fate's every frown,
Nor rested till she reached the goal
Where all must lay their burdens down!

Our brother?—toward the setting sun,
From us remote, his home is made,
And many a year its course has run
Since here his boyish sports were played.

Put by the book! My heart is sore,
The night winds up the chimney flee,
The fire within gleams as before,
But none are here save you and me!

But, sister, you and I again
Will heap the hearth and spread the board
And serve our kindred, now as then,
With all that home and hearts afford.

The scattered remnants of our line,
We'll summon 'neath this roof once more,
And pledge, in rare affection's wine,
The memory of those days of yore.

God bless them all—the fond and true!
God keep them all—both here and there,
Until the Old becomes the New,
Forever, in His Mansion's Fair!
—Youth's Companion.

John Warren's Thanksgiving.

John Warren dropped his newspaper on the floor of the car and stared out of the window. Strongly built and handsome, he was just now wearing on his face a look of utter weariness, resulting from a long trip in the West, where he had been looking after some interests of his, and—she glanced at his shabby clothing—"we will share our little possessions with you, my dear, long-lost son."

As the afternoon wore away John helped his father about the chores and by skillfully planned questions learned all about his financial troubles. He had taken his satchel up to his old room and was washing his hands before supper when he heard a light step on the porch and a bright-faced young woman walked into the kitchen and seeing him stood embarrassed until he, coming forward, said:

"This is Anna Scott, isn't it?"

"Why, John Warren, where have you kept yourself all these years? Oh, how happy your mother must be!"

And dropping his hand, which she had been shaking with greatest enthusiasm, she flew down into the cellar and threw both arms around his mother's neck, and that good lady embraced her, weeping and patting her shoulder with the empty cream pitcher which she had taken there to fill.

Mrs. Warren insisted that Anna should stay for supper. It seemed very much like old times when John tucked her hand under his arm and they walked over the road they had traveled so often years before. Just as they entered her father's garage John said:

"Anna, my parents think just as you do, that I have made a failure of life. Well, I haven't. I am junior member of a very prosperous firm in the West, but I want to keep the secret a little while longer and I want you to help me give them a kind surprise."

Then he unfolded his plan to her and her voice rang with delight as she said: "Oh, John, how lovely that will be!"

The next morning, after the old family Bible was read and a heartfelt prayer offered, John asked the loan of his father's horse and drove straight to Squire Cobb's office and that worthy being in, John said:

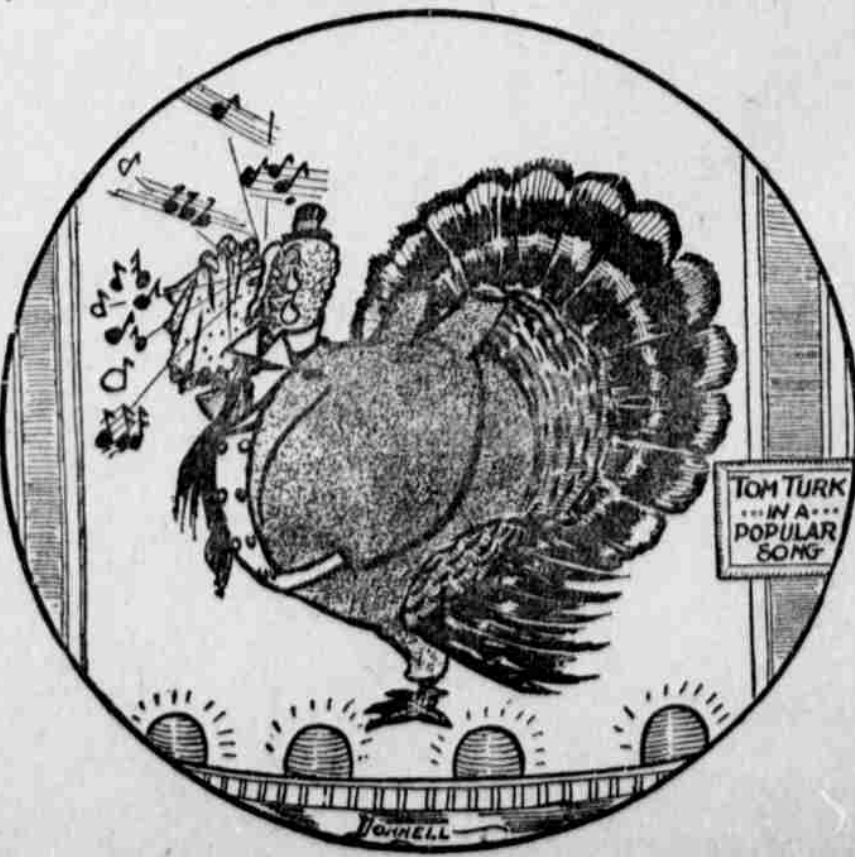
"Squire, I came to see you about that mortgage you have on my father's farm."

With that he drew from his pocket a large roll of bank notes and counted down the \$500 which would release his father from worry and misery. John drove at once to the farm of Mr. Scott and called "Whoo!" just as Anna, her father, mother and brother came to the gate.

There were hearty greetings, and then Anna, all ready for a long drive, sprang beside him. How bright the morning was! How happy were they as the bells jingled and the sleigh moved over the wilderness of snow and through the deep woods. What mysterious bundles they brought out of the stores in town until, when at last they arrived at Anna's home, the sleigh was loaded with "enough to stock a store," as Harry Scott remarked.

Thanksgiving day dawned bright and glorious with sun and snow, and early in the morning Anna appeared and she

"THURSDAY ALWAYS WAS MY JONAH DAY!"



TOM TURK IN A POPULAR SONG

half a mile they might have seen the strong young man shed heartfelt tears as he leaned against the old oak tree by the little gate and gazed earnestly on the brown house at the edge of the woods. Crouching the snow with hasty steps, he was soon at the woodpile at the side of the house. Flinging down his satchel and catching up the ax, he split an armful of wood and opening the kitchen door said in a voice tremulous with emotion, "Mother, is this enough wood to get dinner with?"

A cry of wonderful joy and the mother wept on her son's shoulder while his father paced the floor shouting, "Praise God! Praise God!" stopping often to clasp his son's hand and murmur, "My boy, my boy." Then they drew up to the fire and John said: "Father, mother, will you forgive me for my anger nine years ago and my cruel silence ever since?" And his mother said: "My boy, not a day has passed by that we haven't prayed for your return, and now that you are with us, we can take a new lease on life, and—she glanced at his shabby clothing—"we will share our little possessions with you, my dear, long-lost son."

As the afternoon wore away John helped his father about the chores and by skillfully planned questions learned all about his financial troubles. He had taken his satchel up to his old room and was washing his hands before supper when he heard a light step on the porch and a bright-faced young woman walked into the kitchen and seeing him stood embarrassed until he, coming forward, said:

"This is Anna Scott, isn't it?"

"Why, John Warren, where have you kept yourself all these years? Oh, how happy your mother must be!"

And dropping his hand, which she had been shaking with greatest enthusiasm, she flew down into the cellar and threw both arms around his mother's neck, and that good lady embraced her, weeping and patting her shoulder with the empty cream pitcher which she had taken there to fill.

Mrs. Warren insisted that Anna should stay for supper. It seemed very much like old times when John tucked her hand under his arm and they walked over the road they had traveled so often years before. Just as they entered her father's garage John said:

"Anna, my parents think just as you do, that I have made a failure of life. Well, I haven't. I am junior member of a very prosperous firm in the West, but I want to keep the secret a little while longer and I want you to help me give them a kind surprise."

Then he unfolded his plan to her and her voice rang with delight as she said: "Oh, John, how lovely that will be!"

The next morning, after the old family Bible was read and a heartfelt prayer offered, John asked the loan of his father's horse and drove straight to Squire Cobb's office and that worthy being in, John said:

"Squire, I came to see you about that mortgage you have on my father's farm."

With that he drew from his pocket a large roll of bank notes and counted down the \$500 which would release his father from worry and misery. John drove at once to the farm of Mr. Scott and called "Whoo!" just as Anna, her father, mother and brother came to the gate.

There were hearty greetings, and then Anna, all ready for a long drive, sprang beside him. How bright the morning was! How happy were they as the bells jingled and the sleigh moved over the wilderness of snow and through the deep woods. What mysterious bundles they brought out of the stores in town until, when at last they arrived at Anna's home, the sleigh was loaded with "enough to stock a store," as Harry Scott remarked.

Thanksgiving day dawned bright and glorious with sun and snow, and early in the morning Anna appeared and she

engaged a hired man to ease his father's work and a trusty girl to relieve his mother. He also hired a carpenter to do some needed repairing and set in motion many plans for the future comfort of his parents.

One day he and Harry Scott hunted through the woods, and when tired and loaded with trophies of the day's hunt, they came to Mr. Warren's they found Jennie Nellis and Anna seated before the "great-hearted fire." What a merry supper that was, and how the old people laughed at the bright sallies of the young folk!

Then they roasted apples and told stories, and John felt that he had faithfully carried out the program of the traveling men.

When he left for the West he carried in his memory not only the dear faces of his parents, but the gentle voice of Anna as she said:

"Yes, but not until June, John."—Chicago Post.

Thanksgiving Fable.

A gay young Gobbler, seeing how Melancholy the Turkeys were, propounded A Conundrum:

"Why are Turkeys the Drum Corps of the Fowl Creation? Give it up? Because they all carry Drums. O-u-e-h!" He dodged A blow from the Patriarch of the Flock, who Overheard him.

"Spare me," said the young Fellow, assuming the defensive. "I can give you A Better one. Why do Turkeys have No Hereafter?"

The Patriarch blustered Around and dragged his Wings, looking very Fierce. He knew he ought to know, but couldn't for the Life of Him remember. So he Glowered at the Culprit and asked Severely:

"Well, Sir, why do Turkeys have No Hereafter?"

"Because they have their Necks Twisted In This."

"Pooh!" said the Patriarch, Contemptuously. "That was around on Crutchin when Adam wore Kilts. Now, here is Something new that I Caught on the Wing. We are All to be Diced on the Year."

"What?" Shrieked A giddy Bland with a pink Crest. "Not on Your Life!"

"No, Silly, but as Soon as it is Over, it is the Old Way of Turkey Under-taking and The only Way. In Philadelphia, where I Clipped into the World, Dry Picking was the Correct Thing. All the old families held to it. That gives Turkey Feathers the chance of their Lives. Turkey Tails for Pans—I am told the Aborigines quite Date on Them."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Faith and Hope.

Mayme—If you don't love him why are you going to marry him?

Maybelle—O, I expect to love him after we are married. He has promised that on the morning of our wedding day he will shave off his dinky little French beard.—Chicago Tribune.